Inkeri, the district around present-day Leningrad. Up to that time the country had been rather loosely connected with Sweden and ruled by Finnish-born officials; now a stronger central administrative system was established, and Finland was ruled directly from Stockholm. Great economic and cultural progress was achieved, especially under the governor-general, Count Pehr Brahe, who founded the University of Turku--today the University of Helsinki--in 1640, and remained long in the memory of the people as the personification of a bygone golden age, of "the time of the Count." But the new administrative system brought a danger of denationalization to the Finns. Up until that time Finnish had been the common language of the gentry as well as of the

1:Indiana U S-4, 5(no date)1955 EOI Finland EOI

p73 All children complete four grades of folk school, and after that those who want a higher educational training transfer to secondary schools at the age of ten or eleven. They must pass an entrance examination, the competition for which is quite keen, since there may be as many as twice as many applicants as can be accepted. The secondary schools are either State schools or private schools aided by the State for up to 60 per cent of their expenses. The State schools may be either exclusively for boys or for girls or coeducational, while almost all private schools are coeducational. The following scheme shows the number of secondary schools and their attendance in the year 1945:

State Schools

	Finnish	Swedish	Number of Students
Noraml lyceums	2	1	1,894

873

Lyceums for boys, classical and others	26	4	11,659
Lyceum for girls,	13	1	6,146
Coeducational lyceums	18	5	8,130
Girls' Schools	10	3	3,986
Middle Schools (coeducational)	9	2	2,625
Private Schools			
Coeducational lyceums	66	18	28,510
Lyceums for girls	6	4	2,366
Coeducational and girls' schools	81	4	12,170

Thus the combined number of students in secondary schools was 77,486, 34,440 attending 369 State schools and 43,046 private schools. Almost all schools in the rural areas are coeducational; in the cities girls by far outnumber the boys in the coeducational schools, for,

strangely enough, most parents favor a boys' school for their sons and a coeducational school for their daughters. The schools called lyceums give training both on the middle school and on the gymnasium level, while those referred to in the above chart as schools have only middle school classes.

Children in secondary school must pay for their tuition and books. This system has repeatedly been criticized as unfitting for a democratic country like Finland, in which all children should have an equal chance for a higher education. In practice, however, school fees are no handicap. Especially in the State schools, they are as low as to be merely nominal, and up to 50 per cent of the pupils are exempted from even these fees, as determined by actual need, rather than scholarship. A real problem, on

the other hand, is the fact that there still are no secondary schools in many rural communes, and keeping the child at school away from home proves too difficult because of the everyday living expenses. In addition, many farming families can ill afford to lose the working help represented by a child. Recently there have been plans to change the school system so that every commune will have a secondary school, free and compulsory for all children, and divided into two sections: one with an emphasis on intellectual, the other on practical subjects. The realization of this reform is largely a financial question.

In addition to the subjects included in the curriculum of the primary schools, the secondary schools also teach foreign languages and more advanced mathematics. The middle school lasts

The middle school lasts from five to six years, and if the child wants to leave school at this stage, he can continue in several trade institutes. There are corresponding institutes based on the completion of the folk school as well, and a talented pupil can even this way work himself up to the university level. The three highest grades in the secondary school, called the gymnasium, are preparatory for the university, and can more or less be compared to the junior colleges in America. New subjects are added to the curriculum, among others at least one more foreign language. An adequate knowledge of at least two foreign languages, not including Swedish, is indispensable for higher studies in a country like Finland, where very few books needed in the university can be obtained in one's own language.

Successful work in the secondary schools,

especially at the gymnasium level, requires much effort on the part of the pupil. A student who fails in one subject during the school year can make up his work during the summer vacation, and, by passing an examination in the fall, he may be permitted to move up to the next grade. If his work is unsatisfactory in several subjects, he must stay in the same grade for another year. At the end of the last grade in the gymnasium there is a period of three months in which the students are examined on the whole curriculum of the secondary school and must pass a four-part written matriculation examination in essay writing, mathememmatics or humanistic subjects, in one foreign language, and in the other native language, i.e. Swedish or Finnish. This examination is administered by a central board appointed by the Ministry of Education and is

the same for all students throughout the country. The examination can be taken again the next fall if failed the first time, but the percentage of those rejected is fairly high, up to 25 per cent in some years. Those who pass the examination have the right to wear the coveted white student's cap, alike for both boys and girls, and are regarded as "free academic citizens."

The matriculation examination is a prerequisite for entrance in a university or college, but in addition many departments require entrance examinations. No general courses are offered at the university; specialization begins right away, and the student is left to progress at his own speed and at his own responsibility. No credit system exists, but the students must attend certain classes, seminars and laboratories, and show in several examinations that he has

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Schools for Hospital and Public Health Nurses	11	520
Institutes of Hygiene and Midwifery	2	320
Institutes for Nursery Schools Teachers	1	110
Sibelius Academy (Music School)	1	640
Schools of Dramatic Art	2	30

An important role in public education is played by the numerous (81) peoples' high schools --a unique Scandinavian development--which operated as boarding schools and offer courses of one or two years, intended especially for rural youth. The emphasis here is on a general education and on practical subjects, and these institutions have achieved good results in raising the living standards and the general cultural level in rural areas. In the cities there are

workers' academies, mostly operating as night schools. The enrollment in the peoples' high schools in 1951 was 4000, and at the workers' academies 34,000.

Many use the opportunity for studying through correspondence, and in 1951 the two largest correspondence schools had a total of 27,500 pupils. In addition, there are numerous study circles, 1,865 in 1951, with an aggregate membership of at least 40,000.

The total number of libraries in Finland is around 3,000, and these are maintained by the communes with State aid. On the basis of the number of books borrowed (3.3 per capita in the cities and 0.9 in rural areas) and sold at the book stores annually, the Finns are estimated to read more books than any other people in the world.

1:Indiana U S-4, 5(no date)1955 EO1 Finland EO1

873 Higher education has been valued by the Finns for centuries, and the number of students in secondary schools and universities is proportionally greater in Finland than in Sweden; comparisons with any other country are difficult to make because of differences in educational systems. Parents are encouraged to send their children to the vocational schools, which frequently provide opportunities to better financial [554] positions than the middle school; however, attendance at a secondary school still provides a certain social prestige, and for this reason many parents struggle to keep their children here even when they lack the necessary intellectual ability and show no interest in theoretical studies. As a result, the number of secondary schools is too small to admit more than about two-thirds of the applicants, and the number of people with

873 a higher education tends to be too great for the
875 country's needs. In certain fields, however, there exists a chronic lack of competent trained people. This is especially true of teachers both in primary and secondary schools, as the salaries are not considered adequate to support a family or to compensate for the years spent in preparation.

815 Lack of capital has hampered the founding of research institutes which would employ talented scientists for work in their special fields. The most prominent among the institutes existing is the Vihuri Foundation for medical research. An important event was the establishment of the Academy of Finland in 1947, an institution maintained by the State to promote creative work in the arts and sciences. There are 12 chairs in the Academy: 4 for representatives